IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

MOBILEMEDIA IDEAS LLC,)
Plaintiff,) Civil Action No. 3:11-cv-02353-N
v.)) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
RESEARCH IN MOTION LIMITED and)
RESEARCH IN MOTION CORPORATION,)
Defendants.)

PLAINTIFF MOBILEMEDIA IDEAS LLC'S OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO EXCLUDE PLAINTIFF'S REBUTTAL EXPERT TESTIMONY

Plaintiff MobileMedia Ideas LLC ("MobileMedia")¹ submits this memorandum in opposition to Defendants' Motion to Exclude MobileMedia's Rebuttal Expert Testimony for Failure to Comply with the Local Rules and the Court's Scheduling Order (the "Motion"). (Dkt. No. 261).

INTRODUCTION

By their Motion, Defendants argue that the rebuttal expert testimony of Drs. Meldal and Madisetti should be excluded because MobileMedia's disclosures regarding these experts were deficient under the Court's Scheduling Order and ¶¶ 4-2 and 4-3 of Amended Miscellaneous Order No. 62.

As to Dr. Madisetti, MobileMedia is not pressing the issue.

As to Dr. Meldal, defendants' Motion should be denied for at least four independent reasons. *First*, MobileMedia was not required to disclose all rebuttal expert testimony in the parties' ¶ 4-3 Joint Claim Construction and Prehearing Statement because such testimony could

Plaintiff has previously used the shorthand "MMI"; however, because MobileMedia is also the stock symbol for Motorola Mobility Holdings, Inc., it requests that the Court and parties refer to it as "MobileMedia."

not have been "known" to MobileMedia at the time the statement was filed. <u>Second</u>, MobileMedia's ¶ 4-3 disclosure was more than sufficient for Defendants to take a meaningful deposition of Dr. Meldal, should they so choose. <u>Third</u>, Defendants can point to no real prejudice that they will suffer by the allowance of MobileMedia's rebuttal expert testimony, as Defendants were afforded the opportunity to take the deposition of Ds. Meldal and submit their own rebuttal declaration, yet they failed to do so. <u>Fourth</u>, and finally, Defendants are not entitled to the "extreme sanction" they seek, as they have failed to demonstrate any "willful deception" by MobileMedia or "flagrant disregard" of the Court's Orders.

ARGUMENT

I. MobileMedia Disclosed Dr. Meldal's 5-Page Rebuttal Declaration in Accordance with the Court's Scheduling Order and ¶ 4-3 of Amended Miscellaneous Order No. 62.

In their Motion, Defendants readily admit that, per the Court's Scheduling Order and Amended Miscellaneous Order No. 62, MobileMedia first disclosed Dr. Meldal as an expert witness on April 2, 2012, and subsequently disclosed a summary of his opinions in the parties' Joint Claim Construction and Prehearing Statement on April 24, 2012. Motion at 3. Defendants complain, however, that Dr. Meldal's rebuttal declaration – which is a grand total of 5 pages long – should be excluded as "untimely" because it was allegedly submitted in violation of the Scheduling Order and ¶ 4-3 of Amended Miscellaneous Order No. 62. More specifically, Defendants contend that Dr. Meldal's rebuttal declaration should have been submitted with the parties' Joint Claim Construction and Prehearing Statement on April 24, 2012, the alleged deadline to disclose "all expert declarations" concerning claim construction in this case. *Id.* at 3-

4.2 Defendants are mistaken in several important respects.

First, neither the Scheduling Order nor Amended Miscellaneous Order No. 62 required MobileMedia to disclose all rebuttal expert declarations in the Joint Claim Construction and Prehearing Statement. The Court's Scheduling Order required the parties to comply with ¶ 4-3 of Amended Miscellaneous Order No. 62 by April 24, 2012. Scheduling Order at 3 (Dkt. No. 222). Importantly, however, ¶ 4-3 simply required the parties to submit a joint claim construction statement that contained an identification, for each party, of "any extrinsic evidence *known to the party* on which the party intends to rely, either to support its proposed construction of the claim or to oppose any other party's proposed construction of the claim . . ." Amended Miscellaneous Order No. 62 ¶ 4-3(b) (emphasis added). In contrast, rebuttal evidence is defined as "evidence offered to disprove or contradict the evidence presented by an opposing party." Black's Law Dictionary 599 (8th Ed. 2004). By definition, then, rebuttal evidence cannot be developed and presented until after the opposing party has presented its evidence.

By the plain terms of ¶ 4-3, the parties were not required to present "all" rebuttal expert testimony in the Joint Claim Construction and Prehearing Statement because such testimony could not have been "known" to them at the time the statement was filed. Here, MobileMedia was aware at the time of filing that Defendants might submit declarations of their experts; however MobileMedia was not provided with those declarations prior to the parties' filing. Consequently, because MobileMedia's rebuttal evidence was not "known" to it at the time the Joint Claim Construction and Prehearing Statement was filed, MobileMedia was not required,

² In addition, RIM argues by seeking RIM's agreement to submit rebuttal declarations, MobileMedia exhibited an understanding "that the Scheduling Order does not permit rebuttal declarations." Motion at 4. To the contrary, MobileMedia's conduct exhibits an understanding of the standards of litigation conduct adopted in *Dondi Properties Corp. v. Commerce Savs. & Loan Ass'n*, 121 F.R.D.284 (N.D. Tex. 1988) (en banc). Recognizing that the Scheduling Order is silent on the issue of rebuttal experts, MobileMedia properly conferred with RIM in an attempt to avoid the present dispute.

nor was it able, to include such evidence in the parties' statement. Instead, MobileMedia disclosed the intrinsic and extrinsic evidence "known to [it]," and specifically reserved the right to offer rebuttal testimony in response to any expert testimony offered by Defendants, *see* Joint Claim Construction and Prehearing Statement at 4 (Dkt. No. 249), which was permissible and perfectly appropriate under the circumstances.

Moreover, Defendants concede that both the Scheduling Order and Amended Miscellaneous Order No. 62 are silent as to the submission of rebuttal expert testimony in this case. Motion at 3. Neither Order prohibits MobileMedia's reliance on rebuttal expert testimony during the claim construction phase; nor do the Orders require MobileMedia to first seek leave to designate such testimony. Under such circumstances, courts in patent cases have permitted the submission of previously undisclosed rebuttal expert testimony in connection with the parties' claim construction hearing. *See, e.g., Watson Indus., Inc. v. Murata Elecs. N. Am., Inc.*, No. 02-C-524-C, 2003 WL 23315779 (W.D. Wis. Aug. 7, 2003) (denying motion to strike rebuttal expert submitted after the parties' joint claim construction statement where neither the scheduling order nor the local rules provided for the designation of rebuttal expert testimony.) Accordingly, because MobileMedia's submission of Dr. Meldal's rebuttal declaration was permissible under the Scheduling Order, Amended Miscellaneous Order No. 62, and the applicable case law, Defendants' Motion should be denied.

II. Defendants Will Not Be Prejudiced by the Allowance of MobileMedia's Rebuttal Expert Testimony.

Importantly, Defendants can point to no real prejudice that they will suffer by the allowance of MobileMedia's rebuttal expert testimony. In their Motion, Defendants claim that they will be prejudiced by the allowance of such testimony because they have had no opportunity to depose Dr. Meldal, or to offer rebuttal declarations from their own experts. Motion at 5, 8.

Defendants further complain that, even if they are permitted to conduct depositions and submit rebuttal declarations, they will be prejudiced because the Court's claim construction schedule will need to be postponed. *Id.* at 6. Both of Defendants' arguments fail upon closer inspection.

First, Defendants conveniently neglect to mention that MobileMedia has repeatedly offered Dr. Meldal for deposition, yet Defendants have declined that offer. Appendix at 29 - 33 (May 3-4, 2012 correspondence between J. Daniels and S. Walden). In addition, Defendants were perfectly capable of submitting their own rebuttal expert declarations upon reviewing MobileMedia's expert disclosure, yet they chose not to do so. Had Defendants deposed Dr. Meldal per MobileMedia's offer and/or timely submitted their own rebuttal declaration, no extension of the claim construction schedule would be necessary. Finally, by their own admission, Defendants have already asked for two extensions of the Court's claim construction schedule in this case. Motion at 3, n.1. Accordingly, any disadvantage or delay that Defendants may suffer from the allowance of MobileMedia's rebuttal expert testimony is entirely of Defendants' own making.

III. Defendants Are Not Entitled to the Relief They Seek.

By their Motion, Defendants seek to turn this dispute into a capital offense, asserting that if their interpretation of the Court's Scheduling Order and Amended Miscellaneous Order No. 62 is correct, then Defendants are entitled to the drastic remedy of excluding Dr. Meldal from participating in the claim construction process. Motion at 1, 8. Even assuming that the Court accepts Defendants' interpretation, however, the "disproportionately harsh" remedy they seek is not warranted. *See Watson*, 2003 WL 23315779, at *2.

Numerous courts have recognized that the exclusion of "critical evidence" in a patent case is an "extreme sanction, not normally to be imposed absent a showing of willful deception

or flagrant disregard of a court order by the proponent of the evidence." See, e.g., Delphi Auto. Sys., LLC v. Vehicle Occupant Sensing Sys., No. 10-10886, 2012 WL 126420, at *4 (E.D. Mich. Jan. 17, 2012) (denying a motion to strike previously undisclosed expert declaration offered in support of claim construction); Biovail Labs. Int'l SRL v. Cary Pharms. Inc., Civ. No. 09-605-JJF-LPS, 2010 WL 2132021, at *2 (D. Del. May 26, 2010) (denying motion to strike previously undisclosed supplemental expert declaration filed with answering brief on claim construction). Here, the rebuttal expert testimony submitted by MobileMedia is undoubtedly "critical evidence," as it supports MobileMedia's position with respect to claim construction. Biovail, 2010 WL 2132021, at *2. Moreover, Defendants have failed to demonstrate any willful deception, as there is no proof that MobileMedia affirmatively represented to Defendants that it would not submit rebuttal expert testimony. Rather, in accordance with the Court's Orders, MobileMedia disclosed its "preliminary" extrinsic evidence in its ¶ 4-2 statement, disclosed the intrinsic and extrinsic evidence "known to [it]" in the parties' ¶ 4-3 Joint Claim Construction and Prehearing Statement, and specifically reserved the right to offer rebuttal experts in response to any expert declarations offered by Defendants. See Joint Claim Construction and Prehearing Statement at 4 (Dkt. No. 249). Nor have Defendants demonstrated flagrant disregard of a Court Order. As discussed above, the Scheduling Order does not address whether the parties are permitted to submit rebuttal expert testimony with respect to claim construction, and there can hardly be "flagrant disregard" of a deadline that has not been set by the Court. For all these reasons, Defendants' Motion should be denied.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated herein, MobileMedia respectfully requests that the Court deny Defendants' Motion to Exclude MobileMedia's Rebuttal Expert Testimony for Failure to Comply with the Local Rules and the Court's Scheduling Order.

May 15, 2012

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Mark Turk

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that on May 15, 2012, all counsel of record who are deemed to have consented to electronic service are being served with a copy of this document through the Court's CM/ECF system under Local Rule Cv-5(a)(3). Any other counsel of record will be served via first class mail and/or facsimile.

/s/ Mark Turk
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